

BORGLUND, GUTZEN

DRAWING 22

71. 2009. 025. 03000


Sculptors - B
(Busts)

Statues of Abraham Lincoln

Gutzon Borglum

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2012 with funding from
State of Indiana through the Indiana State Library

<http://archive.org/details/statuxxxxxxxxxxxxxblinc>

Borghum Head (bronzes left eyes)
Hotel Rumbly La Post, Laub

Head in lobby present to Dr Rumbly
by Mrs Borghum after Mr Borghum's
death.

Borghum awarded 1 Cur best Lumber
head.



This Masterpiece, one of the finest portrait busts of LINCOLN

ever created,

now on display

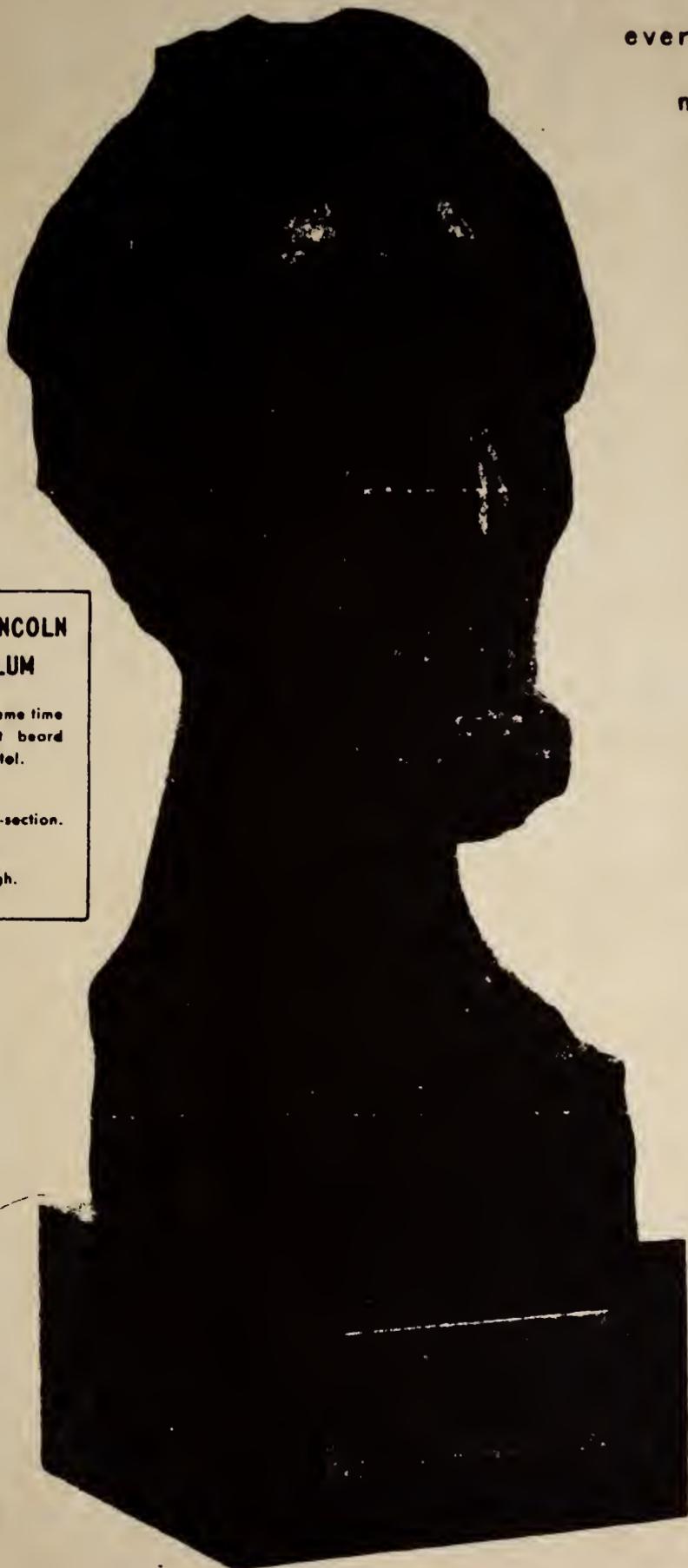
at

HOTEL RUMELY

La Porte, Indiana

- - -

Read the inspiring
story on the
following pages.



**BRONZE HEAD OF LINCOLN
BY GUTZON BORGLUM**

Companion piece made at same time
as Lincoln head without beard
which stands in U. S. Capitol.

Over life size.

Head-12" x 12" widest cross-section.

Height-2 feet.

Black granite base-4½" high.



These pictures show the bust from different angles.
They can only suggest the beauty and grandeur of the bronze itself.

TO CITIZENS OF LA PORTE AND NORTHERN INDIANA.

The story of every great nation that has endured is woven around great national figures who sacrificed their personal advantage for the good of their people and their nation's cause.

Never was it so important for America to revere and hold high the heroic figures who built this nation - Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln. Of these, the martyr president, Lincoln, holds deepest appeal, and, next to the founders themselves, has the greatest significance for our time.

To hold the allegiance of great bodies of men over long periods of time, every great cause or movement must make an appeal to the emotions - particularly to win the loyalty of youth.

It has been rightly said, "The blood of the martyrs was the cement that helped to hold together the Christian churches through two thousand years." Every nation has had its heroes who, as Theodore Roosevelt said, were "willing to die so that the nation itself may live."

The Committee for Constitutional Government is now starting a movement to place the bust of Lincoln, with his moving words bearing on our responsibility to safeguard our form of government, in 100 public places. The Committee appeals to individuals or local business firms for their help in this effort.

The Committee has been able to secure, free of royalty payment to the estate, the right to reproduce one of the sculptured masterpieces of Gutzon Borglum - Lincoln (with a beard), a companion piece to the Lincoln head in the Capitol at Washington, which is regarded as the nation's greatest piece of sculpture.

Borglum makes Lincoln live for the future as Houdon's work does Washington.

Borglum was an intimate or friend of every president of his time. Much of his life was spent in studying American history and in portraying its heroic figures. He died just as he had finished carving into the granite of Mount Rushmore the heads of Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt in the most gigantic piece of sculpture ever made by man.

The Congress has just voted and the president signed a bill to make a crypt in Mount Rushmore his resting place forever underneath the historic figures of the nation's leaders that he has carved. Thus Congress recognized that, as no

COMMITTEE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT MOVES TO REKINDLE NATION'S LOYALTY TO ITS HEROIC LEADERS.

other artist ever has, Borglum interpreted the lives and the spirit of the founders of the American nation.

The Committee for Constitutional Government plans to place Lincoln's bust by Borglum in 100 duplicates in prominent places where they may be seen now and during future decades by large numbers - in offices, factories, libraries, homes. There should be one in every large school and university.

The bust that the Committee is distributing has such emotional appeal that the taxi driver who conveyed it to the Committee's office said, "Please let me carry this inside to the office. Tonight I want to tell my wife the story of Uncle Abe." On the way, the elevator boy remarked, "That's Uncle Abe," and took off his cap as a sign of respect.

The bust is of a size and quality that, as a work of art, would ordinarily sell for \$2,000 to \$5,000, with the likelihood of steady appreciation in value as time passes. Mrs. Borglum presented the original and the master mold for making duplicate originals to Dr. Edward A. Rumely because of his long friendship and cooperation with Mr. Borglum. The right to reproduce duplicate originals from the original master mold makes it possible to give this bust to those who buy \$2,000 in Spotlight subscriptions at \$10 each and/or in Norton books on the Constitution, 60 cents each, for use in schools, or distribution to fellow citizens.

It will be mounted on a block of strong black granite of beautiful texture and color symbolic of Lincoln's character. It will bear the motto:

"OUR CONSTITUTION IS THE BEST PLAN EVER MADE TO ASSURE FREEDOM AND TO RELEASE THE CREATIVE POWERS OF MAN."

Below it, the statement in Lincoln's own words on the people's responsibility for preserving the American form of government;

"WE, EVEN WE HERE, HOLD THE POWER AND BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY. WE SHALL NEELY SAVE OR MEANLY LOSE THE LAST BEST HOPE OF EARTH.".... Abraham Lincoln.

This piece of sculpture will endure for generations, improving in value and beauty, - a source of inspiration to all who see it.

A duplicate original of this masterpiece work of art is on permanent display in the lobby of the Rumely Hotel, La Porte, Indiana.

Take copies of this statement to your home and friends; urge them to see and study this great portrait of Lincoln.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

CARLYLE once said to Holman Hunt: "I'm only a poor man, but I would give one third of what I possess for a veritable, contemporaneous representation of Jesus Christ. Had those carvers of marble chiseled a faithful statue of the Son of Man, as he called himself, and shown us what manner of man he was like, what his height, what his build, and what the features of his sorrow-marked face were, I for one would have thanked the sculptor with all the gratitude of my heart for that portrait as one of the most precious heirlooms of the ages."

Remarkable as it may seem, were it not for photography and one life mask, this, with equal truth, might be said of a man who, as the ages run, has hardly gone from among us.

Lincoln, one of the greatest of observers, was himself the least truly observed. God had built him in the backyard of the nation and there, wrapped in homely guise, had preserved and matured his pure humanity. He was heard, but seems rarely, if ever, to have been truly seen. The reports we have of him do not satisfy, do not justify, are inconsistent. The eastern, old-world eye could not read beyond the queer hat, bad tailoring, and boots you could not now give away—and he was so long he fairly had to stoop to look the little world in the face. Never has bad tailoring, homely, deferential manner, so completely hidden seer, jester, master of men, as did these simple accoutrements this first great gift of the West. But it is surprising that professional observers, artists and writers alike, have drawn and redrawn the untrue picture.

A great portrait is always full of compelling presence, more even than is seen in the original at all times, for a great portrait depicts great moments and carries the record of the whole man. It is, therefore, not enough to draw a mask.

Lincoln is a comfort and a reality, an example, a living inspiration to every mother and every son in America. No mask will satisfy us; we want to see what we care for; we want to feel the private conscience that became public conduct. We love this man, because he was all in all one of us and made all the world peers. Now we begin to see him truly. Within his coming the West has steadily rolled back the East, and of his ways the world has many. The silk hat, the tall figure, the swing, the language and manner have become American, and we all understand.

Official Washington was shocked by his address. Men, who could have given us master pictures of a master man, remained unconvinced until he had passed away. The great portrait was never drawn, and now it is too late; we must wade through mountains of material and by some strange divination find in fragments the real man, and,

patiently, lovingly, yet justly, piece them all together.

It was speculation of this kind that gradually led me to a careful analysis of Lincoln the man. The *accepted* portraits of him do not justify his record. His life, his labors, his writings, made me feel some gross injustice had been done him in the blind, careless use of such phrases as *ungainly, uncouth, vulgar, rude*, which were commonly applied to him by his contemporaries. These popular descriptions do not fit the master of polished Douglas—nor the man, whose intellectual arrogance academic Sumner resented.

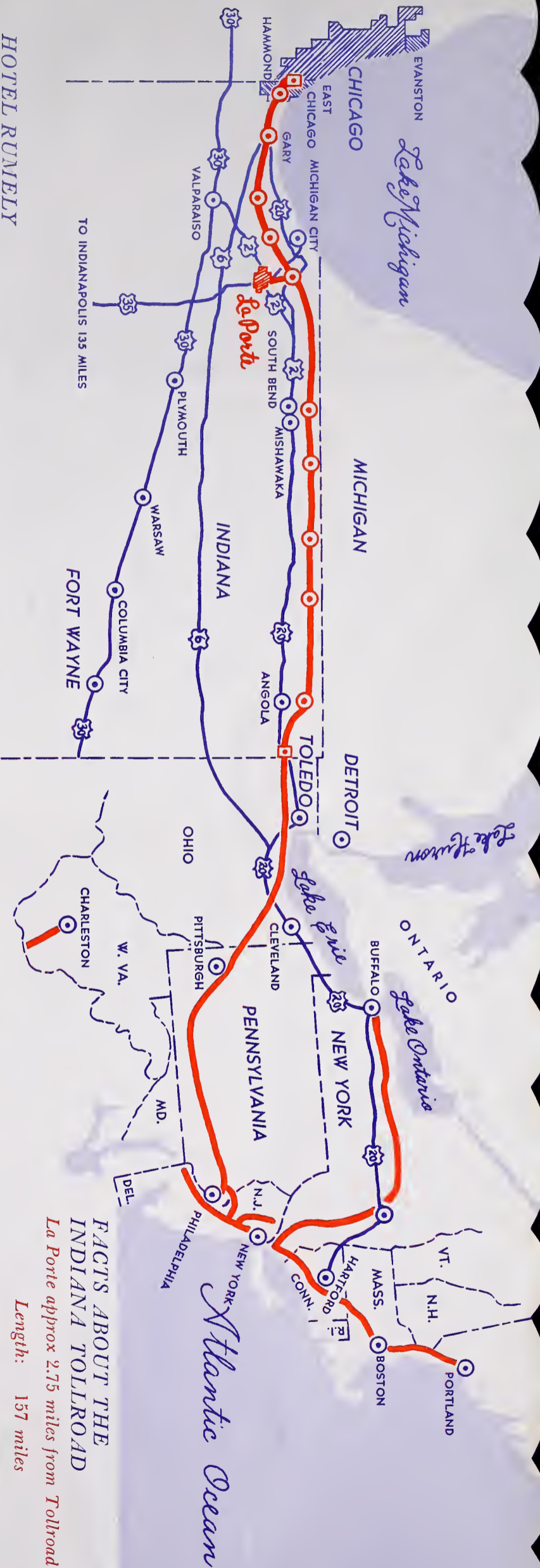
I believed the healthy, powerful youth and frontiersman, the lover, lawyer of spotless record, legislator, the thrice candidate for President, had been falsely drawn. I believed if properly seen and truly read, the compelling and enduring greatness of the man would be found written in his actions, in his figure, in his deportment, in his face, and that some of this compelling greatness might be gotten into the stone. To do this, I read all or nearly all he had written, his own description of himself, the few immediate records of his coming and going. I then took the life mask, learned it by heart, measured it in every possible way—for it is infallible—then returned to the habits of his mind, which his writings gave me, and I recognized that *five* or *six* of the photographs indicated the man.

Whether Lincoln sat or stood, his was the ease of movement of a figure controlled by direct and natural development, without a hint of consciousness. Chairs were low for him and so Lincoln seemed when he sat down to go farther than was quite easy or graceful. His walk was free and he moved with a long but rather slow swinging stride. His arms hung free, and he walked with an open hand. He was erect; he did not stoop at the shoulders. He bent forward, but from the waistline. His face was large in its simple masses. His head was normal in size; his forehead high, regular and ideal in shape. His brow bushed and projected like a cliff. His eyebrows were very strong. His mouth was not coarse or heavy. His right side was determined, developed, ancient. The left side was immature, plain—and physically not impressive.

You will find written in his face literally all the complexity of his nature. We see a dual nature struggling with a dual problem, delivering a single result—to the whole. He was more deeply rooted in the home principles that are keeping us together than any man who was ever asked to make his heart-beat national—too great to become president, except by some extraordinary combination of circumstances.

GUTZON BORGLUM





HOTEL RUMELY

WELCOMES YOU —

Clean, modern, cheerful rooms, delicious food, tasty beverages, amid a pleasant and friendly atmosphere. Radios in every room - T. V. in many - are yours at no extra charge. Facilities for Parties, Banquets, Receptions and Meetings. Plan your district or regional meetings and conventions in La Porte. Your Home Away From Home.

UNUSUALLY FINE PAINTINGS -

Enjoy the very fine murals in our lobby, by the widely known artist, Robert Grafton, depicting the romance of wheat and the dawn of the farm implement business in which the Rumely Family in La Porte played a leading part.

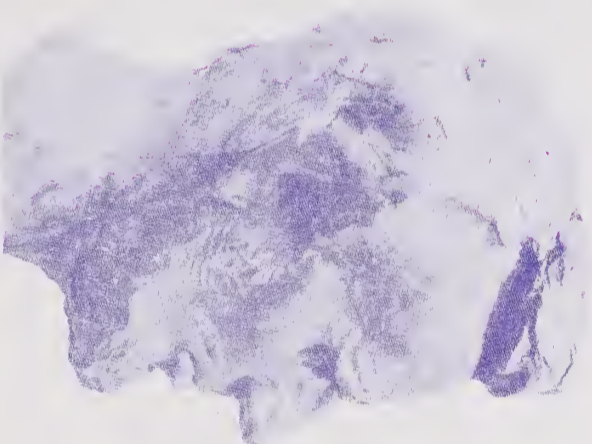
The canvases, 9 in number, were sketched by Mr. Grafton in LaPorte and completed in France.

YOU and LA PORTE, INDIANA -

An excellent place to work and to live. wonderfully located geographically, excellent transportation, public service facilities, sound local government, exceptional recreational advantages -- make La Porte a fine place to establish your plant or business. Contact our Chamber of Commerce for details.

RUMELY HOTEL

LA PORTE, INDIANA



THE BRONZE BUST of Abraham Lincoln displayed in our lobby is the famous work of Gutzon Borglum who, in 1925, was commissioned to carve the faces of Presidents Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt at Mt. Rushmore National Park, South Dakota. Mr. Borglum was a close personal friend of the Rumely Family.

FACTS ABOUT THE INDIANA TOLLROAD

La Porte approx 2.75 miles from Tollroad

Length: 157 miles

Cost: \$ 280,000,000

Full Fare \$1.95 (pass. cars)

Approx. Distances to La Porte

from Chicago	56 miles
Cleveland	250 "
Pittsburgh	385 "
New York	725 "
Boston	925 "
Buffalo	430 "

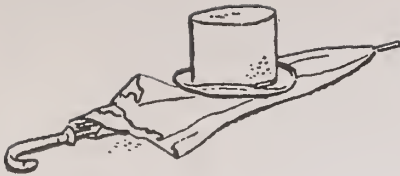
A DELIGHTFUL SIDE TRIP -

International Friendship Gardens, 16 miles Northwest in the Dunes County, contain extensive plantings of flowers, ornamental plants, shrubbery and trees, presented by leading nations of the world, and dedicated to International Friendship, Unity and Understanding. (closed in winter).

IN OUR GUN ROOM is part of the fine collection from the museum of the La Porte County Historical Society.

Guns displayed were obtained from all over the world. They include Flint-Lock Dueling pistols, and various other pistols and rifles from Civil War days.

You will enjoy seeing the larger display in the Museum of our La Porte County Court House, one block away.



18 East Chestnut Street

Chicago 11, Illinois

Dear Gerald -

The enclosed data about the Borglum bust will be of interest to you. Please, for the while, keep your source of this data confidential and also the fact that Indiana Univ. may receive a copy of the bust.

I wonder, now, did they actually make the reproductions, or was it a project that fell by the wayside. It would seem so, otherwise we would have certainly encountered it, and how could they have made copies without anyone approaching your company --- this is unbelievable for an Indiana project.

Best

ABRAHAM LINCOLN BOOK SHOP



September 23, 1963

Mr. Ralph G. Newman
Abraham Lincoln Book Shop
18 East Chestnut Street
Chicago 11, Illinois

Dear Ralph:

Many thanks for the information concerning the Borglum bust of Lincoln. I have read this information with a great deal of interest and it is all entirely new to me.

At your suggestion I shall keep this information confidential. You might be interested to know that I had a long-distance telephone call from Dave Randall concerning our bust and he asked me if it would be alright to call Senator Capehart to see where he obtained the bust. I, of course, had no objection.

Thanking you for this information, I remain

Yours sincerely,

R. Gerald McMurtry

RGM:hs

1990-1991

1998



Campanile Galleries, Inc.

200 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604
312 663-3885

AMERICAN • EUROPEAN
19th-20th CENTURY PAINTINGS

January 28th 1983

Dr. Mark E. Neely Jr.
Lincoln National Life Insurance Co.
P. O. Box 1110
Fort Wayne Indiana 46801

Dear Dr. Neely.

I would like to bring to your attention the availability of a superb bronze bust of President Abraham Lincoln.

The artist is: John Gutzon Borglum (1867-1941) the work was cast in New York at the Bedi-Rassy Foundry and I believe it to be an edition of seven. The work is signed and copyrighted by the artist and bears the foundry stamp at the base.

The work itself is 20" high. with a 4" black marble base.

Should the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company be interested in acquiring the work, you may contact me at the above number. If this is not the case will you please be kind enough to return the photographs to my attention.

Trusting that you will find this of interest, I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

CAMPANILE GALLERIES INC.

Howard B. Capponi 11

Director:
Enc; Photographs

10

الحمد لله الذي جعلنا من
أهل البيت من آل الله

الحمد لله الذي جعلنا من



Capponi

February 2, 1983

Mr. Howard B. Capponi, II
Campanile Galleries, Inc.
200 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear Mr. Capponi:

The Borglum bronze is the sort of sculpture in which we take a keen interest. In this case, however, we already own two examples of it and would not be interested in acquiring a third.

If you wish to contact a private collector, let me suggest Mr. Frank J. Williams, RFD Hope Valley Road, Hope Valley, Rhode Island 02832. He is a Lincoln collector whom we advise from time to time.

Many thanks for considering our interest in Lincolniana.

Sincerely yours,

Mark E. Neely, Jr.

MEN/jaf
Enclosures - *his 2 photos.*

September 2, 1932

Mr. and Mrs. G. G. G. G.
Campbell-Galleries, Inc.
200 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear Mr. Campbell:

The Boston bronze is the sort of sculpture in which
we take a keen interest. In this case, however, we already
own two examples of it and would not be interested in acquiring
a third.

If you wish to contact a private collector, let me suggest
Mr. Frank L. Williams, RFD one Valley Road, Hope Valley, Rhode
Island 02882. He is a Lincoln collector who we advise from
time to time.

Many thanks for considering our interest in Lincolniana.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel H. Kneib, Jr.

W. H. H. H.
Lincolniana

BORGLUND, GUTZEN

DRAWING 22

Sculptors - B
(Busts)

